

THE ADVANCE.

"JUST AS THE TWIG IS BENT THE TREE'S INCLINED."

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DON'T OVERWORK YOUR TALKING APPARATUS.

SPEECH is silver, we are told by a thinking man of old. But a silence he assures the world is golden. And a maxim never bore more emphatic truth in store Than this phrase that comes to us from ages olden. Such a truth should surely find to the chambers of the mind.

In its missionary flight an open lattice In this modern age when men, nearly one in every ten, Freely overwork their talking apparatus.

When a too athletic tongue in its music-box is hung As it were by balanced pivot in the middle, And in propagating sound is forever dancing 'round Like a drop of water on a heated griddle, 'Tis annoying to the ear and elicits but a sneer When the fusillade it shoots is leveled at us, And we find would place a ban on the freedom of a man When he overworks his talking apparatus.

Too much liberty of speech is quite apt to overreach The desired result for which it is intended, And the cup of our desire by a too great vocal fire Oft we crack too seriously to be mended. Friends are never in excess, and with those we now possess We are liable to lose our friendly status, And they're apt to pass us by with a glacial sort of eye If we overwork our talking apparatus.

'Tis the men who have control of their tongues who reach the goal Of ambition in this life's unceasing battle; Not the men who think they take half the pie and all the cake.

With their voluble and often senseless prattle. Men whose chinning is arrayed as their only stock in trade Should be taken by a posse comitatus, And in silent cells immured until permanently cured Of imposing on their talking apparatus. —Denver Post.

TAKING THE CENSUS.

In a few weeks the census enumerators will be at work, and it is their duty to visit every family, and ask them twenty-six questions, which must be answered correctly or those who refuse or give wrong answers will be severely dealt with by the United States Government.

The taking of the census is no small undertaking. There are twenty-six separate questions to be asked each person. Of course with children and in other cases the number of questions is less. The enumerator could hardly ask if a ten-year-old child was married, or if it owned the house in which it resided.

The census man may be deemed quite anxious about your welfare, but it will be well to remember that he is compelled to ask the entire list. Uncle Sam must know the particulars and if you refuse to answer the enumerator he can make it warm for you. He is commanded by the government to get answers to the following twenty-six questions:

- Here is the complete list:
1. Surname, Christian name, initial.
 2. Residence, street, number of house.
 3. Relationship of each member to the head of the family.
 4. Color or race.
 5. Sex.
 6. Age at last birthday.
 7. Day, month and year when born.
 8. Are you single, married, widow, widower, or divorced?
 9. Number of years married.
 10. How many children?
 11. Number of children living.
 12. Sex of these children.
 13. Where were you born? If in the United States, give state or territory; if of foreign birth, give name of the country only.
 14. Where was your father born? Your mother? (Same conditions as the foregoing.)
 15. If of foreign birth, when did you come to the United States?
 16. How many years have you resided in the United States?
 17. Have you been naturalized? How many years since you became a citizen?
 18. What is your occupation, trade or profession? (This question applies to persons ten years of age or over.)
 19. How many months during the year are you employed?
 20. How many months have you attended school?
 21. Can you read?
 22. Can you write?
 23. Give the main facts concerning your education.
 24. Do you own the house in which you live?
 25. Do you rent the house in which you live?
 26. If you own the house, is it free or mortgaged? (The same questions apply to farms.)
- Let every person write out answers to these questions and leave them with his family at his residence for the enumerator when he calls. This will save time and confusion, and ensure correctness.

1. THE first really valuable Census of Agriculture in the United States was taken in 1850, of the crops of 1849. The next enumeration of Agriculture will be taken June, 1900, of the products of 1899.

2. Instead of recording several farms on one schedule in the Twelfth Census, as heretofore each farm will be accorded a separate blank, the entries on which will not be known to any save sworn officers of the Department. No names will be published in connection with information secured from the people.

3. Tax assessors, collectors, and equalizers cannot serve as enumerators, or have access to the Census returns, or to the information therein contained.

4. There are more than 5,000,000 farms, plantations, ranches, stock ranges, and market gardens in the United States, all of which, for Census purposes, will be designated as "farms."

5. A "farm" is all the land cultivated or held for agricultural purposes under one management, whether in a single body or separate parcels.

6. The enumerator will ask for the size and value of each farm, the value of buildings, and the aggregate value of all machinery, implements, vehicles, harnesses, etc., used thereon;

and the amount of land owned and leased, respectively, by said occupant.

7. He will also ask for the acreage and value of each crop, and the acreage of improved, unimproved, and irrigated lands.

8. The designation "each crop" includes all grains, cotton, corn, rice, sugar cane, sugar beets, sorghum, hay, clover, wild grasses, gathered forage, flax, hemp, hops, peanuts, tobacco, seeds, nuts, tropical fruits, small fruits, orchard fruits, nursery and greenhouse stock, broom corn, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes and yams, all vegetables, including the product of all family, truck, and market gardens, etc.; also new or unusual crops, when found.

9. The enumerator will ask for the number and value of the live stock on the farm June 1, 1900, which will be reported under a number of heads, such as horses, colts, mules, asses, cows, heifers, steers, calves, bulls, ewes, rams, lambs, swine, goats, chickens (including guinea fowl), turkeys, geese, ducks, bees, etc.

10. He will also ask for the quantity and value of milk, cream, butter, cheese, raisins, prunes, molasses, sirup, sugar, eggs, beeswax, honey, wool, wine, cider, vinegar, dried and evaporated fruits, forest products, poultry and meat products, and, generally, all articles made at home, or for the home, from farm materials in 1899.

11. If a person who moves from a farm between the end of the crop year 1899 and June 1, 1900, will leave a written record of the products and crops of that farm for 1899 where it will reach the appropriate enumerator, the statistics of his operations for that year will not be lost. He will be required to give the enumerator of the district in which he lives on June 1, 1900, the acreage, value, buildings, machinery, implements, and live stock of the farm he then occupies.

12. If every farmer will begin at once to prepare a careful record of all the facts which the enumerator will be instructed to record in June, 1900, he will save time for himself and the officer, and insure more accurate returns to the Government.

13. The twentieth century will begin on January 1, 1901. Therefore, the pending Census will afford to future generations a measure of the strength and condition of the United States at the threshold of the new hundred-year cycle. For that reason everyone should take an active interest in making it as nearly perfect as possible. If each farmer will make his own perfect, the aggregated report for every community, and for the nation, will be perfect.

"NO PLACE AT HOME."

I MET him on the street corner—a bright, black-eyed lad of perhaps fourteen summers. I had seen him there evening after evening, and wondered whether there was no one who knew the temptations which he encountered.

I made friends with him, and won his confidence. Then I questioned him kindly in regard to his spending so much time on the street.

"I know," he said, looking up at me in such a frank, winning way that I could not help thinking what a noble man he might make, "the streets is not the best place for a boy, but you see there is no place for me at home."

"How is that?" I asked.

"Well, I have two grown-up sisters, and they entertain company in the parlor every evening. They give me to understand that I am a third party, and not wanted. Then papa is always tired, and he dozes in the sitting-room, and does not like to be disturbed. It's pretty lonesome, you see; so I come down here. It was not always so," he went on. "Before grandma died, I always went up to her room, and had a jolly time. Grandma liked boys."

There was a quaver in the voice now that told of a sorrow time had not yet healed.

"But your mother?" I suggested.

"Oh, mamma!—she is only a reformer, and has no time to spend with me. She is always visiting the prisons and workhouses, trying to reform the men, or writing stories on how to save the boys."

"And her own boy in danger?"

"Yes. I am not half as good as I was before grandma died. I am getting rough, I am afraid. There does not seem to be any one to take an interest in me, so it does not much matter."

It was a hard, bitter truth; and yet I knew that this was not the only boy who needed a wise, gentle hand to guide him through the dangerous period.

O mothers! are you blind, that you cannot see the dangers of your own, but look for that of others?

Make home the brightest spot on earth for your children. Take an interest in their sports; make yourselves young for their sakes; and then you can feel that you have done your whole duty.

I think the saddest, most hopeless thing I ever heard from a boy's lips was that sentence: "There is no place for me at home." God forgive that mother, and open her eyes before it is too late, and help other mothers to heed the warning! How is it, mothers? Are your boys in danger? Think of this, ponder over it, pray over it. —Mothers' Magazine.

THE small letter "j" was formerly written without the dot. The dot was introduced in the fourteenth century to distinguish "i" from "e" in hasty and indistinct writing. The letter "i" was originally used where the letter "j" is now employed. The distinction between "i" and "j" was introduced by the Dutch printers at a comparatively recent date, and the "j" was dotted because the "i" from which it was derived, was written with a dot.

TRUST IN THE FUTURE.

I know not what the future hath
Or marvel or surprise
Assured alone that life and death
His mercy underlies.

And so beside the Silent Sea
I wait the muffled car;
No harm from Him can come to me
On ocean or on shore.

I know not where His islands lift
Their fringed palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
Beyond His love and care. —John G. Whittier.

NEVERS FOR BOYS.

NEVER make fun of old age; no matter how decrepit, how unfortunate, or evil it may be. God's hand rests lovingly on the aged head.

Never use intoxicating liquors as a beverage. You might never become a drunkard; but beer, wine and whisky will do you no good, and may wreck your life. Better be on the safe side. Make your influence count for sobriety.

Never make fun of one of those miserable creatures, a drunken man or woman. They are wrecks; but God alone knows the stress of the storms which drove them upon the breakers. Weep rather than laugh.

Never tell or listen to the telling of filthy stories. Cleanliness in word and act is the sign manual of a true gentleman. You cannot handle filth without becoming foul.

Never cheat or be unfair in your play. Cheating is contemptible anywhere at any age. Your play should strengthen, not weaken, your character.

Never call anybody bad names, no matter what anybody calls you. You cannot throw mud and keep your own hands clean.

Never be cruel. You have no right even to hurt a fly needlessly. Cruelty is the trait of a bully; kindness the mark of a gentleman.

Never lie. What is your opinion of a liar? Do you wish other people to have a like opinion of yourself?

Never hesitate to say "no," when asked to do a wrong thing. It will often require courage—the best kind of courage—but say "no" so distinctly that no one can possibly understand you to mean yes.

Never quarrel. When your tongue becomes unruly, lock it in—if need be, bite it. Never suffer it to advertise your bad temper.

Never be unkind to your father or mother. When they are dead, and you have children of your own you will discover, even though you did your best, you were able to make only a part payment of the debt you owed them. The balance you will have to pay over to your own children.

Never make comrades of boys who are continually doing and saying evil things. A boy as well as a man is known by the company he keeps.

Never make fun of a companion because of a misfortune he could not help.

Never fancy you know more when fifteen years old than your father and mother have learned in all the years of their life. Wisdom is not given to babes.

Never lay aside your manners when you take off your fine clothes.

Never treat other boys' sisters better than you do your own.

Never forget that God made you to be a joyous, loving, lovable and helpful being. Be one.

KINDNESS AND MERCY TO ANIMALS.

WE clip the following brief paragraphs from *Our Dumb Animals*, published in Boston. They are sayings of its editor, Mr. George T. Angell. Read them and think them over:

In moving don't forget your cat.

If there were no birds man could not live on the earth.

Every kind word you say to a dumb animal or bird it will make you happier.

Every unkind treatment to the cow poisons the milk—even talking unkindly to her.

Nations, like individuals, are powerful in the degree that they command the sympathies of their neighbors.

Refuse to ride in any cab, herd or carriage drawn by a docked horse, and tell the driver why.

Don't kill your dog trying to make him run with your bicycle. Dogs were intended for no such purpose.

No convicts in our prisons deserve greater punishment than the men who get up and keep unnecessary wars.

Always keep your dogs and cats nights where they will not disturb the sleep of your neighbors and so come in danger of being poisoned.

Always kill a wounded bird or other animal as soon as you can. All suffering of any creature, just before it dies, poisons the meat.

One thing we must never forget, namely: that the infinitely most important work for us is the humane education of the millions who are soon to come on the stage of action.

"Just so soon and so far as we pour into our schools the songs, poems and literature of mercy towards these lower creatures, just so soon and so far shall we reach the roots not only of cruelty but of crime."

THERE is no more effective method of burying information than by pasting newspaper clippings and scraps in a book. They can never be found when wanted. Get a number of stout Manila envelopes and put all clippings upon a single subject in that one envelope. If kept in a strong pasteboard or wooden box, the envelopes marked with the subject on the outside, any desired clipping may be found in a fraction of the time required by the book method. And if you want to take the scrap away you don't have to cut it out; it is loose.

AMERICAN EXHIBITS AT PARIS.

AMERICANS who visit the Paris Exposition will have reason to be proud of their country's exhibit, and those of us who remain at home may get some satisfaction from the fact that the United States is outdone at the great fair by no nation save France in the extent of exhibits and not even by France herself in the general merit of exhibits. The record which the American exhibitors have made is notable and is certain to create a sensation throughout the world of buyers and sellers. The official catalogue contains the names of 6,564 Americans with goods on display, more than three times as many as represented France at Chicago and more than three times as many as will represent any other nation at Paris this year.

The effect upon the world market of so large a display of American goods is hard to estimate, yet it is certain to be great. The advance of American manufacturers into every port during the past dozen years—indeed, within the past five years—has been upsetting the calculations of some of the oldest exporting establishments in existence. The American manufacturer seems to be at last awakening to the necessity of carrying his goods abroad with a special view to their suitability. He is studying the markets more closely than ever before, here and there equipping outposts for display and instruction. The enormous display of American goods at the Paris exhibition will do much toward convincing the world of the commercial and industrial greatness of our country and its ability to supply the world's needs. —Paterson News.

THE WHIPPING-POST DEMANDED.

A NEW-YORK judge had a man before him the other day for wife-beating, and was going to send the ruffian to jail, when the injured wife came along and begged against such punishment, as she and the children had nothing to live on if he was shut up. The judge relented and let the fellow off on a promise not to repeat the cowardly offense. A few days later there was the same man on the same charge, and the same weeping woman who would go to the poor-house if he went to jail. The judge gave him a scathing rebuke, which probably did the judge more good than it did the wife-beater, and then let him off again. But the court declared itself as in favor of reviving the whipping-post for cowards of this sort. In this the judge was not alone. There has been a steady growth for years past of this sentiment. The man who beats his wife has no right to the comforts of a jail. He should smart for his shabby act; and the fear of a flogging by a whip will do far more to control such a man than the fear of a scolding or of a jail sentence. Those fellows are always cowards, and cowards hate pain. The lash is painful. The fear of it would keep brutes in order, and the law should be so altered as to permit a revival of this practical and old-fashioned method of imparting advice and instruction as well as admonition. If every man who beat a woman was to be himself beaten, the effect would be most beneficial. We're bound to adopt such a law some day. —Hartford Courant.

TO HELP CHILDREN.

THE mind, like the body, grows stronger by exercise, and the best and most profitable exercise is that which the child gets from his own work, says *School Management*. The teacher does the child a great deal wrong in doing his work for him. The more a pupil does for himself, the greater will be his self-dependence and the more thorough his mental discipline. As well might we expect a child to grow physically strong if continually carried in the nurse's arms, as expect him to grow mentally strong while receiving the constant help of the teacher. It is what the child does for himself that strengthens his mental faculties and fits him for his subsequent work.

The pupil should not be permitted, however, to waste time wrestling with difficulties beyond his strength. He should have no direct help in doing that which he can do for himself, but it is useless and unprofitable to permit him to waste time in attempting to solve problems beyond his comprehension. When the teacher once discovers that the child is unable to overcome a difficulty, it is then time for him to give such suggestion as will start a proper train of thought in the mind of the child, and thus enable him to gain a victory.

A PLANT THAT EATS MEAT.

THE sundew is one of the most curious plants in nature's great collection of queer things. If an unlucky fly lights on one of its leaves, that leaf closes right up, wrapping tightly around Mr. Fly, and staying closed for days until he is all eaten up. A bit of meat or some of the white of an egg dropped on the leaves will make them do the same thing. But the queerest thing of all is that these leaves will pay no attention to a pebble or a chip of wood that may be dropped on them and will not close up at all. If a moment later a worm should drop on one of these same leaves it would curl shut at once. Now, how does this plant know what is good to eat and what is not?

WE all know that there are many occasions when we are able to control and direct our thoughts, but when, instead of doing so, we allow them to wander on aimlessly and fruitlessly. This is not mental rest or recreation, but mental indolence.

A YOUNG man idle, an old man needy.

A GOOD fame is better than a good face.